

AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

1947.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:--

R. S. Wathes.

M.A. (Cantab) L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
Medical Officer of Health.

John H. Ellis.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I.E.
Joint Board for Sanitary Inspectors.
Certificate of R.S.I. for Inspectors
of Meat and other Foods.

W. Higham.

District Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of R.S.A. (Scotland).
Certificate of R.S.A. (Scotland) for
Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.

D. Grantley Smith.

District Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of R.S.I. and S.I.E.
Joint Board for Sanitary Inspectors.

L. W. Martin.

Chief Clerk.



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AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1947.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Greenhill and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my second Annual Report of the work done by your Public Health Department during the year ending December 31st. 1947.

The year was an active one, and is to be remembered as a time of re-organisation. On April 1st. 1947, the Public Health Department was divided from the Surveyor & Engineer's Department, and I believe that this step has promoted greater efficiency among the Staff.

I wish to offer my thanks to the Chairman and all Members of the Council for their continued help and advice, and for the very full support I always receive from them.

I also wish to express my appreciation to the Staff of my Department of their untiring efforts to maintain the existing high standard of efficiency, and my thanks for their loyal co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

R. S. WATHES,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Court,
Axbridge, Somt.

August 1948.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY 1947.

Area of District.	90,551 acres
Number of inhabited houses.	7,142
Rateable Value	£174,883.
Population: 1931 Census	22,076
Registrar-General's estimate for 1947.	24,420

LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	213	213	426
Illegitimate	9	6	15
	—	—	—
	222	219	441
			==

BIRTH RATE. 18.06

STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	6	3	9
Illegitimate	-	-	-
			—
			9
			==

STILL BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 total births). 20.0

DEATHS:

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	169	172	341

DEATH RATE: 13.9

VITAL STATISTICS.

REGISTERED BIRTHS.

After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar General credited the District with 441 live births for 1947, 222 were males and 219 females. Of these 15 were illegitimate (9 males and 6 females). The registered number of still births was 9 (6 male and 3 females) all of which were legitimate.

The birth rate for 1947 was 18.06 for 1,000 of the population, which was lower than for the country as a whole (20.5)

DEATHS.

341 deaths were registered to the District during the year. Of these 169 were males and 172 females. The death rate for 1947 was 13.9 per 1,000 of the population which was higher than for the country as a whole (12.0)

The following tables show the causes of death in the Axbridge Rural District, 1947:-

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
All causes ... Total 341	169	172
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
Cerebro spinal fever	1	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	2
Syphilitic diseases	-	-
Influenza	-	1
Measles	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	-	-
Acute infantile encephalitis	-	-
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	7	3
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	4
Cancer of Breast	-	10
Cancer of all other sites	12	13
Diabetes	1	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	19	29
Heart disease	51	57
Other diseases of the circulatory system	5	9
Bronchitis	12	3
Pneumonia	-	1
Other respiratory diseases	-	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	-
Appendicitis	1	-
Other digestive diseases	2	4
Nephritis	8	6
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	2
Other maternal causes	-	-
Premature births	5	1
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases	6	3
Suicide	1	1
Road traffic accidents	5	3
Other violent causes	4	4
All other causes	17	13
Special causes (included in All other causes above) -		
small-pox	-	-

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1947.

<u>Ages at Death in Years.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Under 1	13	5	18
1 to 9	2	1	3
10 to 24	-	1	1
25 to 44	8	11	19
45 to 64	48	34	82
65 to 69	20	14	34
	— 91	— 66	— 157
70 to 74	26	22	48
75 to 79	19	30	49
80 to 84	20	30	50
85 to 89	10	16	26
90 to 94	3	5	8
95 to 99	-	3	3
	— 78	— 106	— 184
	169	172	341

The number of deaths in the four quarters of the year were:-

First quarter	124
Second quarter	74
Third quarter	63
Fourth quarter	80

INFANT MORTALITY:

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age, registered during the year was 18 as follows:-

Under 1 week	...	...	11
1 - 4 weeks	...	...	3
1 - 6 months	...	...	3
6 - 12 months	...	...	1

These 18 deaths represent an infant mortality rate of 40.8 for all infants per 1,000 live births.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

All the Health Services have been maintained, with a few additions and alterations which are noted under the special headings.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The health of our Rural District was good as might be expected in these pleasant surroundings. Infectious Diseases were comparatively few, the epidemic of Infantile Paralysis hit us lightly, and other diseases caused by bad conditions were rare. Public Health services are of a high standard, and compare favourably with those of other local authorities.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is a piped water supply to every parish in the District, which is entirely owned by the District Council with the exception of the supply to Kewstoke. This parish is supplied by Weston-s-Mare.

Certain scattered areas in some parishes are still dependent on private sources (usually good) and rainwater. As soon as possible these areas will be served and during the year some additions were made to the piped supply. Greater detail is available in the Surveyor's report, since this work is now entirely under his Department. There is no large collection of premises in the District that has no piped supply of water.

Both quantity and quality of the public water supply was satisfactory throughout the year, in spite of the long period of dry weather. Bacteriological examinations were made of samples of water every month by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Taunton, and the reports were all very satisfactory. Tests for plumbo-solvency were all negative.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Dwelling houses.</u>	<u>Dwelling-houses receiving a supply from Public Water Mains.</u>	<u>Population supplied from Public Water mains. Direct to Standpipe.</u>	
Axbridge	277	274	1,099	12
Badgworth	105	103	370	3
Banwell	546	506	1,672	-
Berrow	113	109	330	-
Blagdon	306	294	1,011	-
Bleadon	206	178	527	-
Brean	96	94	229	-
Brent Knoll	239	224	737	-
Burnham Without	90	89	257	-
Burrington	139	100	337	-
Butcombe	55	42	152	-
Chapel Allerton	76	74	279	-
Cheddar	765	744	2,555	7
Churchill	343	275	675	-
Compton Bishop	116	95	408	-
Congresbury	381	300	1,156	-
East Brent	205	205	744	7
Hutton	174	143	449	-
≠ Kewstoke	210	176	422	-
Locking	84	66	149	-
Loxton	50	40	143	-
Lympsham	146	146	476	22
Mark	244	243	915	16
Puxton	43	40	179	-
Shipham	188	174	513	-
Weare	128	125	417	-
Wedmore	690	587	2,248	22
Wick-st-Lawrence	46	42	181	-
Winscombe	642	625	2,267	-
Wrington	439	353	1,373	-

≠ Weston-s-Mare Borough Council Water Supply area.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This matter always presents a great problem in a rural area with many scattered dwellings.

1. Our main villages and hamlets are at least in part served by public sewers maintained by the Council. Renewals and additions are still urgently needed but no progress was made during the year in the provision of new sewerage systems owing to various limitations. The main work carried out was confined to maintenance and extension of sewers to meet proposed new housing development. Schemes are in preparation for Axbridge with Cross, and Congresbury & district. A temporary scheme has recently been approved by the Ministry of Health pending preparation of a comprehensive scheme for the Parish of Bleadon. Provision of schemes in the near future should also be made for Wedmore, Bleadon, Hutton and Kewstoke.
The ancient system of sewers at Axbridge which discharge into open ditches adds to the difficulty of maintaining adequate public health measures, as there is pollution of an extensive rhyme system which provides water for cattle.
At Congresbury, the abuse of highway and surface water drains in the past has led to the establishment of what now amounts to sewers. These discharge to open ditches which have proved to be a public nuisance.
The immediate need for proper sewerage schemes for Axbridge with Cross, and Congresbury cannot be over emphasised.
2. A large proportion of the inhabitants of our District must, of necessity, depend upon private cesspools for sewage disposal. The District Council maintain a tanker vehicle and arrange for the emptying of private cesspools at a very moderate charge.

HOUSING.

The housing problem remained most urgent during the year. There are many cases of overcrowding, and the occupation of insanitary dwellings. The Public Health Department has co-operated with the Housing Department in selecting the worse cases to be re-housed in new Council Houses under the Council's "points" scheme. This work alone has made necessary about 379 inspections by the Sanitary Inspectors, and many re-inspections could have been avoided if the applicants had kept us informed of change of circumstances.

In addition visits to applicants for new Council Houses have been made by the Medical Officer of Health in company with the Housing Officer just prior to the allocation of new houses. This system has, I hope, helped to remove possible mistakes in allocation.

The Council held 66 houses on requisition during 1947 and took over control of 63 "Squatted Hutments". These houses and hutments are in a reasonably good state of repair, and accommodation for very urgent cases can usually be found, when no new Council Houses can be allotted.

A total of 141 families were re-housed by the District Council during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table sets out particulars of infectious disease occurring in the District during the year:-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Isolation to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Small-pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	16	9	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Measles	127	4	-
Whooping Cough	62	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Pneumonia	19	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	2	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-
Erysipelas	4	1	-
	230	17	-

44 rooms, one school, a caravan and a hut were disinfected, following cases of infectious disease, during the year.

Cases of personal infection are now very infrequent. Only 14 cases of Scabies were notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	25	9
Non-Pulmonary	6	

Morbidity Rate for Tuberculosis.

Total Cases notified - 31 Estimated Population - 24,420

Rate = 1.27 Incidence per 1,000 per year.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number of Cases on Register at 31st. December 1947.	27	31	8	9	35	40

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following table shows the progress of immunisation against diphtheria :-

	<u>Immunisation completed</u> <u>during 1947.</u>	
	<u>Under 5 years.</u>	<u>5 - 15 years.</u>
Number of children	336	84

A total of 3,631 children under the age of 15 years have completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st. December 1947 against an estimated mid-year population 1947 of 5,210.

It is interesting to note that Axbridge Rural District had a greater number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year than any other local authority in the County of Somerset.

HOSPITALS, CLINICS ETC.

These services have not altered during the year, but several Infant Welfare Centres have been opened in the District. Although Infant Welfare is not the responsibility of the Public Health Department we have kept in touch with the Centres and co-operated in every possible way.

Home Nursing and Midwifery under the control of local Nursing Associations has continued as before.

CONCLUSION.

I feel that I may safely say that the Public Health Services maintained in this District are of a high standard. There are, of course, some services that can be improved, and my Department will always be seeking to make these improvements.

The year 1947, from the Public Health point of view, was satisfactory.

of the

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1947.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Greenhill and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my first Annual Report, dealing with the work carried out by your Public Health Department during the year 1947.

In spite of the present day difficulties due to shortage of labour and materials I am happy to be able to report that Public Health standards are being maintained and improved throughout the District.

HOUSING.

During the year the urgent need for new houses has overshadowed the remainder of the housing problem. It should not be forgotten however that the repair and maintenance of existing property has a direct bearing on the new housing question. Occupants of dwelling-houses which are in an insanitary condition are given a high priority on the re-housing list. Reconditioning of such dwelling-houses to a satisfactory standard converts a housing liability into a housing asset. Recommencement by the Council of action under the provisions of the Housing Act 1936 has resulted in the submission by owners of satisfactory proposals for reconditioning several insanitary properties, the tenants of which would have a high allocation of points under the "Points" scheme on applying for a Council House. It remains to be seen what attitude towards reconditioning such properties will be taken by the Ministry of Health from a Building Licence point of view. As the average cost of reconditioning an old property to a modern standard averages one third to one half of the cost of the erection of a new house, with consequent saving in labour and material, there is much to recommend this reconstruction work.

It is to be regretted that grants towards the reconditioning of cottages, under the provisions of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts are no longer available to owners. Before the war, the provisions contained in these Acts made a very useful contribution towards raising the standard of housing accommodation in this District.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that reconditioning of sub-standard property should be complete and thorough. Workers will not be attracted to agriculture whilst their wives are expected to tolerate housing facilities of lower standard to those available to town dwellers. The younger generation of country folk expects a proper standard of housing accommodation. The days when all that was expected of a cottage was that it should have four sound walls and a watertight roof are over.

The Rural Housing Survey is revealing how many properties are below the required standard. All who interest themselves in Rural Housing will look forward to the day when the Country's economic position will permit more extensive reconditioning of sub-standard dwelling-houses. In the meantime, apart from the exception mentioned, the repair of existing property has been confined to the remedying of urgent defects.

Now that the Council's new housing programme is well under way it is considered that a contribution could be made towards raising the standard of housing accommodation in the District by ensuring that those properties which are already subject to Demolition Orders and which have been used as emergency housing accommodation under Defence Regulations are not allowed to become re-occupied, when the present tenants are re-housed, but are demolished.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

Estimated number of dwelling-houses to be surveyed (i.e. all those under £16. rateable value excluding private dwelling-houses erected since 1930 and Council Houses).	...	...	4,055	
Number of properties surveyed (total to 31st. December 1947).	...	...	1,607	39.6%
Number of properties found to be satisfactory in all respects.	...	(Category 1)	130	8.1%
Number of properties found to have minor defects.		(Category 2)	290	18.0%
Number of properties requiring repair or structural alteration.	...	(Category 3)	1,030	64.1%
Number of properties suitable for reconditioning under the provisions of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.	...	(Category 4)	76	4.8%
Number of properties unfit for habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost.		(Category 5)	157	9.8%

OVERCROWDING.

As might be expected, the total of 47 cases of overcrowding recorded at the end of the year showed an increase over pre-war figures. This figure should decline in future years as the result of the re-housing programme.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The continued popularity of camping holidays has resulted in a steady increase in the number of moveable dwellings in the District after the check of the war years. The present tendency is for caravans to be stationed more or less permanently on one site. This is due partly to petrol restrictions and partly to the fact that so many caravans are let on the sites by their owners throughout the camping season.

Strict Public Health control of camping sites is essential. This will be realised from the fact that on a single field there may be living, under conditions to which they are unaccustomed, a total number of persons exceeding the population of a small village. The interest and co-operation of the site owner and his adequate supervision of the site is an essential factor in maintaining sanitary conditions.

There is no objection from a Public Health point of view to a properly regulated camping site for which adequate sanitary provisions have been made. On the other hand an ill-regulated site could be a positive danger to the community.

Number of camping sites licensed during the year. 42

Total number of moveable dwellings permitted on these sites. ... 752

FOOD PREMISES.

Particular attention was given during the year to the hygiene of food premises. Generally speaking, the standard of cleanliness on such premises in this District is good. Most of the informal notices which were served could have been avoided if shopkeepers and others in charge of premises used for the storage, preparation or sale of food had ensured :-

- (1) that the store places at the rear of shops were kept in as cleanly a condition as the shops themselves.
- (2) that adequate facilities for persons engaged in handling food to wash their hands were provided. These facilities cannot be regarded as satisfactory unless there is a fitted wash-hand basin, with a supply of constant hot and cold water laid on over the basin, and soap, nailbrush and towel are provided.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of catering establishments since the war. The ready co-operation of the Food Control Committee has been of great assistance in ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Food & Drugs Act 1938 in respect of these premises.

ICE CREAM.

The manufacture and sale of ice cream also received considerable attention during the year, following the coming into operation of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations. With ready co-operation, all the manufacturers in the District have reconditioned their premises to a good standard and it has been possible to ensure compliance with all the requirements of the Regulations now in force. Check tests and inspections at all stages of manufacture have been made. One result of this co-operation has been that the results of the bacteriological examination of samples of ice cream manufactured in the District have been very satisfactory and have compared favourably with those taken of ice cream 'imported' into the District.

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.	...	5
Number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream.	...	37

MILK AND DAIRIES.

With the staff available, it has not been possible to carry out as many inspections of farms where milk is produced as is desirable. Work has therefore been concentrated on premises at which milk is produced for retail sale and on retailer's premises.

Of the 62 samples taken for examination for Tubercle Bacilli, 3 proved positive. As the result of investigations by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries' officers, 2 cows giving infected milk were slaughtered. One case was undetermined at the end of the year.

(a) Total number of Registered Dairy Farms.	921
(b) " " " Registered Retailers.	104
(c) " " " Producer/Retailers (included in (b)).	76
(d) Number of Licenced Pasteurising Plants.	1

(e) Number of Tuberculin Tested Milk Producers.	93
" " Accredited Milk Producers.	85
" " Tuberculin Tested Milk Retailers (Non-Producers) licenced.	3
" " Accredited Milk Retailers (Non- Producers) licenced.	1
" " Pasteurised Milk Retailers (Non- Producers) licenced.	3

RODENT CONTROL.

Routine search of the District for rat and mice infestation and the treatment of infested premises has been successfully continued during the year by trained operators. The importance of search for infestation cannot be too highly stressed. Many infestations which would otherwise be unreported and undiscovered are revealed in this way. The free treatment of domestic premises has been a most useful Public Health measure.

Test baiting of public sewers has indicated that all sewerage systems are free of rats with the exception of those at Axbridge & Wedmore. These two systems were under treatment during the year.

Total number of infestations discovered or reported.	...	...	552
Total number of premises treated.			528
" " " pre-baits laid.			13,052
" " " poison baits laid.			6,749
" " " complaints of re-infestation.			12

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of Household Refuse and Salvage was maintained and the service extended during the year so that there is now a fortnightly collection over practically the whole of the District. Rising costs of collection are causing concern but are not abnormal in relation to the general conditions prevailing throughout the country.

Total amount of Refuse collected during the year. 3,120 Tons.

Total amount of Salvage material collected during the year :-

			T.	Cwt.	Qr.
(a)	Paper.	...	84.	16.	3.
(b)	Cardboard.	...	21.	16.	1.
(c)	Rags.	...	8.	8.	2.
(d)	Bones.	...	4.	16.	0.
(e)	Bottles, Jars etc.			1,391 doz.	

The sale of material salvaged realised £1,174. 8. 6d.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

The Council's cesspool emptier has increasingly been made use of by the public. This service, which was instituted owing to the difficulty of getting cesspools cleansed by local labour, is now taken so much for granted that it is sometimes forgotten that work which now takes an hour or so by tanker, with very little inconvenience to the householder, only a few years ago probably involved a days work by manual labour, with the attendant offensive smells which sometimes rendered a dwelling-house almost uninhabitable during that period.

Total number of cesspools and housing site
settlement tanks cleansed during the year. 266

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out during the year:-

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspec- tions	Written notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	83	57	3
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises)	17	12	-
Total.	106	75	4

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-
Total.	4	4

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of inspections (including re-inspections)	3,080
Total number of houses and premises inspected	2,114
Complaints investigated	176
Written notices and letters sent	1,047
Cowshed and Dairy inspections	294
Food Shops and Food Premises inspections	265
Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings inspections	255
Factory inspections	75
Shops Act inspections	92
Ice Cream premises inspections	132
Milk Samples taken	106
Water Samples taken	72
Ice Cream Samples taken	53
Rooms, Classrooms etc., disinfected & disinfested	47
Nuisances from keeping of animals abated	3
Nuisances from accumulation of manure abated	4
Drainage tests at existing premises	9

FOOD INSPECTION.

Particulars of foods condemned during the year are as follows:-

		Grs. lbs.	
Meat.		3½.	
Fish.		2.	0.
Bacon.		24¾.	
Cake	... 544 lbs.	Margarine	... 5 lbs.
Cereals	... 18 "	Mustard	... 24 tins
Dried Milk	... 19 tins	Split Peas	... 2 lbs.
Eggs	... 176	Pudding Mixture	... 12 pkts.
Egg Powder	... 4 oz.	Salad Dressing	... 5 bottles
Flour	... 44 lbs.	Seasoning	... 7 pkts.
Fruit	... 30 "	Soup Powder	... 52 "
Macaroni	... 1 lb.	Tea	... 27 "

Canned Goods.

Condensed Milk	... 311 cans	Soups	... 23 cans
Fish	... 81 "	Vegetables	... 202 "
Meat, various	... 42 "	Macaroni	... 8 "
Fruit	... 53 "	Syrup	... 1 can
Jams	... 18 "		

I respectfully thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the help and support they have extended to me. I also wish to express my gratitude to the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk and other Officers of the Council for their assistance and co-operation which has been so readily given at all times.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

J.H.ELLIS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.